

## WORTH QUOTING

The man who writes a letter to state that a prominent opera singer once worked in his kitchen demonstrates, to the Philadelphia Ledger, little beyond the fact that she worked for an exceedingly contemptible person.

Like many other unpromising articles of diet, benzoate of soda is all right, suggests the Washington Star, if you mix it with the proper things.

New Jersey is taking legislative steps to double the taxes of all big Trusts having habitat there. Does seem rather, indecent, to the Washington Times, after getting 'em all in, to hold 'em up in such fashion.

The London Lancet warns against the morning cup of tea. It's getting so that nearly everything is very dangerous, laments the Baltimore Sun.

An Atlanta youth addicted to dime novels tried to extort \$35,000 from a banker. Really, comments the Philadelphia Ledger, he could not have read all the novels this sum would have bought.

China is to have a new census and a navy. But the former will interest the world at large, observes the Cleveland Plain Dealer, much more than the latter.

Pedestrians have their rights, asserts the Philadelphia Inquirer. Reckless driving of a motor in crowded streets or along roads that are thickly occupied with teams cannot be allowed. But to hold an automobile down to a snail's pace along country highways is absurd.

Carrying concealed weapons breeds cowardice in its worst form, contends the New York World. For nothing is more cowardly than to use a deadly weapon in an altercation which could be better settled with fists.

All men should learn to wrestle and box, and discard clubs, knives and revolvers.

The ideal way to recognize the religious institutions of the country, thinks the Christian Register, would be to remove all restrictions upon the free movement of church members and adherents so that without obloquy or shame each one might find a religious home where his spiritual sympathies would be enlisted. But the ideal way is never immediately the possible way.

It is absurd, maintains the New York Journal, to say that killings by automobiles are unavoidable. Decent automobilists avoid them always. Cars of every sort and kind are guided safely through the streets without accident, in all weathers, and at all hours of the day or night. Only when ruffians use the streets for speedways are people run down and maimed or killed.

There are many people who never eat bread, but always eat pie, and are healthy. There is scarcely one ingredient in either of these articles that is not in the other, and yet tradition praises bread and condemns pie, philosophies the New York Press. As a matter of fact, no longer is pie what pie was fifty years ago. The pie which nourished Abraham Lincoln, Ben Franklin, the Adamses, Sam and John; the pie about which Longfellow wrote, which Emerson ate three times a day, pie that was once an inspiration, a symphony, a ripe achievement and the most sacred performance of a patriotic duty, such pie is no longer art—not even in New England.

### A Woman Holds the Place—Curious Business Started Seventy Years Ago.

Of the many unusual occupations followed by women, probably the most curious, and by no means the least interesting, is that of the official timekeeper of London, to whom practically every big watch and clock maker in the metropolis pays a fee once a week to learn the correct time, says "Tit-Bits."

"What is more," said Miss Belleville, the woman in question, recently, "my father and mother before me earned a very good income by providing London with the correct time. As a matter of fact, my curious little business originated some seventy years ago. In those days it was extremely difficult to obtain the exact time in London. The principal watch and clock makers had nothing to guide them. If they sent to the Greenwich Observatory there was no outside clock, and the department, of course, did not exist for the purpose of supplying watchmakers with the time."

"Ultimately Mr. Pond, the astronomer royal of the period, was approached and asked if anything could be done. My father, John Henry Belleville, was at that time chief assistant of the astronomer royal, and also a ward of his, and Mr. Pond suggested to him that on certain days my father should take around the right time to London firms by means of a corrected chronometer."

"This my father did, the firms paying him a stipulated amount per annum, and the innovation proved so successful that, at the time of his death, he was drawing an income from this source of between £400 and £500 a year. After his death my mother was granted the privilege of having her chronometer corrected at Greenwich whenever she pleased, in order that she might carry on the business of timekeeper, and when she gave it up in 1892 I took her place, and have carried on the business ever since, with the permission of Sir William Christie, the present astronomer royal."

Every Monday morning Miss Belleville goes from Maidenhead, where she resides, to the Observatory at Greenwich, and is there given an official document saying that her chronometer differs from mean time by so many seconds and tenths of seconds. Such a favor is granted to no other person, and, armed with this exclusive credential, Miss Belleville sallies forth to correct the timepieces of London.

She has about forty customers in the city, and to each she repairs in turn and permits them to correct their time in accordance with that of her own chronometer and the official document. And from the forty customers whom Miss Belleville visits for this purpose the rest of London gets its time, for the customers include such firms as Dent's—the makers of Big Ben—Benson's, etc.

To the "Tit-Bits" man Miss Belleville showed the chronometer which enables her to carry on her unique business. It is a watch of the "turkey" type, and of very venerable appearance. Its history is decidedly interesting.

"It was made," said its owner, "in 1835 by Arnold, one of the most famous watchmakers that ever lived, for the Duke of Sussex, a son of George III. After possessing it a short time the noble owner discarded it because it was too clumsy, and my father bought it at a fancy price. At that time the chronometer had a gold case, but my father had it replaced by a silver one, as he had to visit many London slums, and thought it would be safer if it looked less imposing."

"Is my business still a success, you ask? Oh, yes, otherwise I should not carry it on. You see, although there are some firms which have had their clocks electrically synchronized, there are others who do not care for the idea, and are still glad to have the assistance of my chronometer, and if I neglect to call they soon send for me."

## SAN MATEO.

### LOCATION, ATTRACTIONS, ADVANTAGES.

#### Information for the Visitor or Home-seeker.

##### Location.

San Mateo, Putnam County, is situated on the east bank of the St. Johns River, and 90 feet above it. The highest point in Florida, east of the St. Johns river, which is one-half mile wide at this point.

Five miles from Palatka, our county seat, (city of 4,000), 23 miles from St. Augustine and about 75 miles from Jacksonville.

The terminus of a branch of the Florida East Coast Railway. The depot being three-quarters of a mile from the river wharf.

##### Advantages and Attractions.

San Mateo has good shelled roads and miles of hard sidewalks. Beautiful wateroaks line both sides of streets, and meet overhead in many places.

Two churches, public and private schools, telegraph, telephone, express, money order postoffice, three mails daily, meat market, two general stores, who take orders and deliver goods at your door, weekly paper.

The place is incorporated, but no town taxes have been collected for over ten years; the many public improvements are made by the push and generosity of the citizens and pulling together. The state and county taxes are about 20 mills on about one-third valuation.

Good hunting and fishing, deer, turkey, ducks and quail, black bass and other Florida fresh water fish.

Good boarding house, Byrlyn Place, open winters; rates eight to ten dollars per week; \$2.00 day.

Six thousand people went through the San Mateo Fruit Company's grove here last season.

One of the best advantages San Mateo enjoys is transportation; being on both river and rail is an advantage that few Florida points enjoy. The past season, for instance, railroads and terminals at Jacksonville were more than congested and fruit shipped from points down the central part of the state was, in some cases, three weeks getting to Jacksonville, en route to northern markets, and did not bring enough to pay freight, while San Mateo shippers, at same time, would ship from here one day and have fruit go out of Jacksonville on the Clyde ship the next. This little matter this season alone was worth thousands of dollars to the San Mateo growers and the homeseeker will do well to bear in mind transportation and cheap rates that come with competition, in selecting a Florida location.

The population is about 350, who came mostly from the northern states. As a class they are men of means, progressive and sociable. Have a better class of homes than can be found in any place in the south of its size. The buildings kept painted and grounds in good order.

##### Healthfulness.

On account of its high altitude, there is no healthier spot in Florida for all the year round or for the winter visitors. For those who come to Florida on account of health, many find this higher altitude, dry and balmy air is better than the lower, more harsh air found in salt water sections.

##### Business.

The principle business is orange growing. Some 400 acres in groves are here, and as this proves profitable, there is not much attention paid other crops, although there are some vegetables grown for shipment and

cattle and hogs seem to be profitable.

As an instance for profit in a good orange grove, Mr. B. F. Dotney, from less than seven acres last season, shipped \$6,200 worth of fruit.

##### Soil.

The soil varies a great deal from high pine to low and high hammock, all within a mile, so that lands for any purpose or crops can be secured.

San Mateo can be reached from Jacksonville by Florida East Coast railway or Beach and Miller line steamers (see time tables elsewhere in this paper). The Clyde's St. Johns river steamers arrive here about 10 p. m. so do not advise this route. Fare B. & M. line \$1.25; railroad \$2 from Jacksonville.

Launch Rainbow leaves Palatka every afternoon at 1:30. Lucas line steamers 2:30 p. m., every day but Sunday.

B. & M. line from Palatka 3 p. m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and three trains daily on F. E. C. railway. Fare from Palatka 25 cents any route.

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#### THE NATIONAL GAME.

Jimmy Sebring is playing a very fast game in Brooklyn's outfield.

Chappelle, a former Tri-State pitcher, is making good with the Boston.

The Newark club has bought the release of Pitcher John Flater from the Athletics.

Connie Mack is of the opinion that Baker will be the best third baseman he ever has had.

Manager Fred Clarke, of the Pittsburghs, freely admits that Cincinnati has a much improved team.

Willie Keeler is a good waiter this year as usual, and has been garnering not a few bases on balls.

"Kitchell will make the best catcher in the Eastern League before long," says Manager Wolverton.

The New York club has turned Roger Bresnahan's younger brother, Phil, over to the Portsmouth club.

In New York they say that Schiel is a good catcher, but hasn't the whooping-up spirit of Roger Bresnahan.

The Pittsburgh club has secured Catcher Stratton from New Orleans in exchange for a claim on Catcher Schriver.

Young Beck, of the Boston Nationals, is a pretty lively person around the first sack. He has a lengthy reach.

According to Secretary Locke the Pittsburghs drew more money in their five games in Cincinnati this year than in all eleven games last year.

A baseball team composed of patients and attendants at the Northern Indiana Hospital for the insane has issued a challenge to any similar team in the United States.

"Ed. Walsh has something else beside the spit ball," observes Rube Vickers. "I pitched a game against him last season and for six innings the ball was as dry as a chip."

#### He Recognized the Fly.

Three-year-old Jack had a little "experience" with a hornet, and upon ed, "O, mamma, here is another one seeing one on the window, exclaiming of those sharp-shooter flies in the house."—The Delineator.